

THE RURAL REPORT | OCT 14 2025

Updates on Federal Action and Funding Opportunities
Supporting Development in Rural Communities

SNAP Funding May Run Out in November

The Trump Administration is warning state nutrition agencies that USDA will run out of money for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) if the government shutdown stretches into November. USDA's acting associate administrator for U.S.'s largest nutrition program instructed regional and state SNAP directors to delay sending next month's funds to electronic benefit transfer (EBT) vendors who are responsible for delivering benefits to participants.

The Trump administration has promised to use tariff revenue to supplement the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which is also set to run out of emergency funding shortly. The plan, detailed in a briefing for congressional staff last week, involves moving roughly \$300 million to ensure states can continue providing food aid and formula to millions of low-income moms and infants.

Boren Confirmed for Top USDA Job

Last week, controversial USDA nominee Michael Boren was confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Department's Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment. His nomination was approved as part of an en bloc vote that included over 100 nominees across various departments. In his new role, Boren will oversee the U.S. Forest Service, with which he has reportedly had several personal conflicts in the past over stream diversion on his property bordering the Sawtooth National Forest.

Farm Aid Plan Still Unclear

Farm groups and lawmakers are still eagerly awaiting details from the Trump Administration on a farm aid package. USDA has said they won't announce any formal aid plans until the shutdown is over. It's unclear whether the administration has figured out how to fund the billions in aid ag stakeholders are asking for. Despite speculation that the inability to deliver services and quickly deliver aid to alleviate the farm crisis might kickstart negotiations to end the shutdown, both parties remain entrenched in their positions.

Funding Opportunities

[Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages](#)

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD offers competitive grants to Indian tribes for the development of decent housing, suitable living environment and economic opportunities to advance viable Indian and Alaska Native communities. ***Application deadline: 11/24/2025***

[Farm to School Grant Program](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Improves access to local foods in eligible Child Nutrition Program (CNP) sites through comprehensive farm to CNP programming that includes local sourcing and agricultural education efforts. ***Application deadline: December 5, 2025***

[Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage and solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas. ***Application deadline: Open***

[On-Farm Labor Housing Loans](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development provides low-interest loans to eligible borrowers to develop or rehabilitate rental housing for very-low- to moderate-income farm laborers. ***Application deadline: Open until funds are depleted***

[USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development supports zero-interest loans and grants for current and former eligible Rural Utilities Service borrowers who then use the funds to help local businesses finance projects that create/retain jobs or support community facility projects. ***Application Deadline: Quarterly***

[Intermediary Relending Program](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development provides funds to local lenders or “intermediaries” that re-lend to businesses to improve economic conditions and create new opportunities in rural communities. ***Application deadline: Quarterly***

[Community Facilities Programs](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development provides funding to develop or improve essential public services and facilities. Projects include fire and rescue stations, town halls, health care clinics, hospitals, childcare centers, assisted living facilities, rehabilitation centers, public buildings, schools, libraries, and many other community-based initiatives. ***Application Deadline: Open***

[Mutual Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development provides grants to organizations to help them carry out local self-help housing construction projects. Recipients supervise groups of very-low- and low-income individuals and families as they construct their own homes in rural areas. ***Application deadline: Open***